

**Exhibit C**

**Engagement Letter**

## KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP

AND AFFILIATED PARTNERSHIPS

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July 1, 2022

Rod Bolger  
Celsius Network Limited  
The Harley Building  
77–79 New Cavendish Street  
London W1W 6XB  
United Kingdom

Re: Retention to Provide Legal Services

Dear Mr. Bolger,

We are very pleased that you have asked us to represent Celsius Network Limited and only those wholly or partially owned subsidiaries listed in an addendum or supplement to this letter (collectively, “Client”) in connection with a potential restructuring. Please note, the Firm’s representation is only of Client; the Firm does not and will not represent any direct or indirect shareholder, director, officer, partner, employee, affiliate, or joint venturer of Client or of any other entity.

**General Terms.** This retention letter (this “Agreement”) sets forth the terms of Client’s retention of Kirkland & Ellis LLP (and its affiliated entity Kirkland & Ellis International LLP (collectively, the “Firm”)) to provide legal services and constitutes an agreement between the Firm and Client (the “Parties”). This Agreement (notwithstanding any guidelines for outside counsel that Client may provide to the Firm) sets forth the Parties’ entire agreement for rendering professional services for the current matter, as well as for all other existing or future matters (collectively, the “Engagement”), except where the Parties otherwise agree in writing.

**Fees.** The Firm will bill Client for fees incurred at its regular hourly rates and in quarterly increments of an hour (or in smaller time increments as otherwise required by a court). The Firm reserves the right to adjust the Firm’s billing rates from time to time in the ordinary course of the Firm’s representation of Client.

Although the Firm will attempt to estimate fees to assist Client in Client’s planning if requested, such estimates are subject to change and are not binding unless otherwise expressly and unequivocally stated in writing.

**Expenses.** Expenses related to providing services shall be included in the Firm’s statements as disbursements advanced by the Firm on Client’s behalf. Such expenses include photocopying, printing, scanning, witness fees, travel expenses, filing and recording fees, certain

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secretarial overtime, and other overtime expenses, postage, express mail, and messenger charges, deposition costs, computerized legal research charges, and other computer services, and miscellaneous other charges. Client shall pay directly (and is solely responsible for) certain larger costs, such as consultant or expert witness fees and expenses, and outside suppliers' or contractors' charges, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties. By executing this Agreement below, Client agrees to pay for all charges in accordance with the Firm's schedule of charges, a copy of which is attached hereto at Schedule 1, as revised from time to time.

**Billing Procedures.** The Firm's statements of fees and expenses are typically delivered monthly, but the Firm reserves the right to alter the timing of delivering its statements depending on circumstances. Client may have the statement in any reasonable format it chooses, but the Firm will select an initial format for the statement unless Client otherwise requests in writing. Depending on the circumstances, however, estimated or summary statements may be provided, with time and expense details to follow thereafter.

**Retainer.** Client agrees to provide to the Firm an "advance payment retainer," as defined in Rule 1.15(c) of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct, *Dowling v. Chicago Options Assoc., Inc.*, 875 N.E.2d 1012, 1018 (Ill. 2007), and *In re Caesars Entm't Operating Co., Inc.*, No. 15-01145 (ABG) (Bankr. N.D. Ill. May 28, 2015) (and cases cited therein), in the amount of \$1 million. In addition, Client agrees to provide one or more additional advance payment retainers upon request by the Firm so that the amount of any advance payment retainers remains at or above the Firm's estimated fees and expenses. The Firm may apply the advance payment retainers to any outstanding fees as services are rendered and to expenses as they are incurred. Client understands and acknowledges that any advance payment retainers are earned by the Firm upon receipt, any advance payment retainers become the property of the Firm upon receipt, Client no longer has a property interest in any advance payment retainers upon the Firm's receipt, any advance payment retainers will be placed in the Firm's general account and will not be held in a client trust account, and Client will not earn any interest on any advance payment retainers; provided, however, that solely to the extent required under applicable law, at the conclusion of the Engagement, if the amount of any advance payment retainers held by the Firm is in excess of the amount of the Firm's outstanding and estimated fees, expenses, and costs, the Firm will pay to Client the amount by which any advance payment retainers exceed such fees, expenses, and costs. Client further understands and acknowledges that the use of advance payment retainers is an integral condition of the Engagement, and is necessary to ensure that: Client continues to have access to the Firm's services; the Firm is compensated for its representation of Client; the Firm is not a pre-petition creditor in the event of a Restructuring Case; and that in light of the foregoing, the provision of the advance payment retainers is in Client's best interests. The fact that Client has provided the Firm with an advance payment retainer does not affect Client's right to terminate the client-lawyer relationship.

Please be advised that there is another type of retainer known as a "security retainer," as defined in *Dowling v. Chicago Options Assoc.*, 875 N.E.2d at 1018, and *In re Caesars Entm't Operating Co., Inc.*, No. 15-01145 (ABG) (Bankr. N.D. Ill. May 28, 2015) (and cases cited therein). A security retainer remains the property of the client until the lawyer applies it to charges for services that are actually rendered and expenses that are incurred. Any unearned funds are then

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returned to the client. In other circumstances not present here, the Firm would consider a security retainer and Client's funds would be held in the Firm's segregated client trust account until applied to pay fees and expenses. Funds in a security retainer, however, can be subject to claims of Client's creditors and, if taken by creditors, may leave Client unable to pay for ongoing legal services, which may result in the Firm being unable to continue the Engagement. Moreover, a security retainer creates clawback risks for the Firm in the event of an insolvency proceeding. The choice of the type of retainer to be used is Client's choice alone, but for the Engagement and for the reasons set forth above, the Firm is unwilling to represent Client in the Engagement without using the advance payment retainer.

**Termination.** The Engagement may be terminated by either Party at any time by written notice by or to Client. The Engagement will end at the earliest of (a) Client's termination of the Engagement, (b) the Firm's withdrawal, and (c) the substantial completion of the Firm's substantive work. If permission for withdrawal is required by a court, the Firm shall apply promptly for such permission, and termination shall coincide with the court order for withdrawal. If this Agreement or the Firm's services are terminated for any reason, such termination shall be effective only to terminate the Firm's services prospectively and all the other terms of this Agreement shall survive any such termination.

Upon cessation of the Firm's active involvement in a particular matter (even if the Firm continues active involvement in other matters on Client's behalf), the Firm will have no further duty to inform Client of future developments or changes in law as may be relevant to such matter. Further, unless the Parties mutually agree in writing to the contrary, the Firm will have no obligation to monitor renewal or notice dates or similar deadlines that may arise from the matters for which the Firm had been retained.

**Cell Phone and E-Mail Communication.** The Firm hereby informs Client and Client hereby acknowledges that the Firm's attorneys sometimes communicate with their clients and their clients' professionals and agents by cell telephone, that such communications are capable of being intercepted by others and therefore may be deemed no longer protected by the attorney-client privilege, and that Client must inform the Firm if Client does not wish the Firm to discuss privileged matters on cell telephones with Client or Client's professionals or agents.

The Firm hereby informs Client and Client hereby acknowledges that the Firm's attorneys sometimes communicate with their clients and their clients' professionals and agents by unencrypted e-mail, that such communications are capable of being intercepted by others and therefore may be deemed no longer protected by the attorney-client privilege, and that Client must inform the Firm if Client wishes to institute a system to encode all e-mail between the Firm and Client or Client's professionals or agents.

**File Retention.** All records and files will be retained and disposed of in compliance with the Firm's policy in effect from time to time. Subject to future changes, it is the Firm's current policy generally not to retain records relating to a matter for more than five years. Upon Client's prior written request, the Firm will return client records that are Client's property to Client prior to their destruction. Although we will return your records (*i.e.*, your client file) to you at any time

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upon your written request, you agree that your client file will not include our Firm's internal files including administrative materials, internal communications, and drafts. It is not administratively feasible for the Firm to advise Client of the closing of a matter or the disposal of records. The Firm recommends, therefore, that Client maintain Client's own files for reference or submit a written request for Client's client files promptly upon conclusion of a matter. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, Client acknowledges and agrees that any applicable privilege of Client (including any attorney-client and work product privilege or any duty of confidentiality) (collectively, the "Privileges") belongs to Client alone and not to any successor entity (including without limitation the Client after a change in control or other similar restructuring or non-restructuring transaction (including without limitation a reorganized Client after the effective date of a plan of reorganization), whether through merger, asset or equity sale, business combination, or otherwise, irrespective of whether such transaction occurs in a Restructuring Case or on an out-of-court basis (in each case, a "Transaction")). Client hereby waives any right, title, and interest of such successor entity to all information, data, documents, or communications in any format covered by the Privileges that is in the possession of the Firm ("Firm Materials"), to the extent that such successor entity had any right, title, and interest to such Firm Materials. For the avoidance of doubt, Client agrees and acknowledges that after a Transaction, such successor entity shall have no right to claim or waive the Privileges or request the return of any such Firm Materials; instead, such Firm Materials shall remain in the Firm's sole possession and control for its exclusive use, and the Firm will (a) not waive any Privileges or disclose the Firm Materials, (b) take all reasonable steps to ensure that the Privileges survive and remain in full force and effect, and (c) assert the Privileges to prevent disclosure of any Firm Materials.

**Data Protection.** You further agree that, if you provide us with personal data, you have complied with applicable data protection legislation and that we may process such personal data in accordance with our Data Transfer and Privacy Policy at [www.kirkland.com](http://www.kirkland.com). We process your personal data in order to (i) carry out work for you; (ii) share the data with third parties such as expert witnesses and other professional advisers if our work requires; (iii) comply with applicable laws and regulations and (iv) provide you with information relating to our Firm and its services.

**Conflicts of Interest.** As is customary for a law firm of the Firm's size, there are numerous business entities, with which Client currently has relationships, that the Firm has represented or currently represents in matters unrelated to Client.

Further, in undertaking the representation of Client, the Firm wants to be fair not only to Client's interests but also to those of the Firm's other clients. Because Client is engaged in activities (and may in the future engage in additional activities) in which its interests may diverge from those of the Firm's other clients, the possibility exists that one of the Firm's current or future clients may take positions adverse to Client (including litigation or other dispute resolution mechanisms) in a matter in which such other client may have retained the Firm or one of Client's adversaries may retain the Firm in a matter adverse to another entity or person.

In the event a present conflict of interest exists between Client and the Firm's other clients or in the event one arises in the future, Client agrees to waive any such conflict of interest or other objection that would preclude the Firm's representation of another client (a) in other current or

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future matters substantially unrelated to the Engagement or (b) other than during a Restructuring Case (as defined below), in other matters related to Client (such representation an “Allowed Adverse Representation”). By way of example, such Allowed Adverse Representations might take the form of, among other contexts: litigation (including arbitration, mediation and other forms of dispute resolution); transactional work (including consensual and non-consensual merger, acquisition, and takeover situations, financings, and commercial agreements); counseling (including advising direct adversaries and competitors); and restructuring (including bankruptcy, insolvency, financial distress, recapitalization, equity and debt workouts, and other transactions or adversarial adjudicative proceedings related to any of the foregoing and similar matters).

Client also agrees that it will not, for itself or any other entity or person, assert that either (i) the Firm’s representation of Client or any of Client’s affiliates in any past, present, or future matter or (ii) the Firm’s actual or possible possession of confidential information belonging to Client or any of Client’s affiliates is a basis to disqualify the Firm from representing another entity or person in any Allowed Adverse Representation. Client further agrees that any Allowed Adverse Representation does not breach any duty that the Firm owes to Client or any of Client’s affiliates. Client also agrees that the Firm’s representation in the Engagement is solely of Client and that no member or other entity or person related to it (such as a shareholder, parent, subsidiary, affiliate, director, officer, partner, employee, or joint venturer) has the status of a client for conflict of interest purposes.

In addition, if a waiver of a conflict of interest necessary to allow the Firm to represent another client in a matter that is not substantially related to the Engagement is not effective for any reason, Client agrees that the Firm may withdraw from the Engagement. Should that occur, Client will not, for itself or any other entity or person, seek to preclude such termination of services or assert that either (a) the Firm’s representation of Client or any of Client’s affiliates in any past, present, or future matter or (b) the Firm’s actual or possible possession of confidential information belonging to Client or any of Client’s affiliates is a basis to disqualify the Firm from representing such other client or acting on such adverse matter.

It is important that you review this letter carefully and consider all of the advantages and disadvantages of waiving certain conflicts of interests that would otherwise bar the Firm from representing parties with interests adverse to you during the time in which the Firm is representing you. You also understand that because this waiver includes future issues and future clients that are unknown and unknowable at this time, it is impossible to provide you with any more details about those prospective clients and matters. Thus, in choosing to execute this waiver, you have recognized the inherent uncertainty about the array of potential matters and clients the Firm might take on in matters that are adverse to you but have nonetheless decided it is in your interest to waive conflicts of interest regarding the Allowed Adverse Representations and waive rights to prohibit the Firm’s potential withdrawal should a conflict waiver prove ineffectual.

The Firm informs Client that certain entities owned by current or former Firm attorneys and senior staff (“attorney investment entities”) have investments in funds or companies that may, directly or indirectly, be affiliated with Client, hold investments in Client’s debt or equity securities, may be adverse to Client, or conduct commercial transactions with Client (each, a



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“Passive Holding”). The attorney investment entities are passive and have no management or other control rights in such funds or companies. The Firm notes that other persons may in the future assert that a Passive Holding creates, in certain circumstances, a conflict between the Firm’s exercise of its independent professional judgment in rendering advice to Client and the financial interest of Firm attorneys participating in the attorney investment entities, and such other persons might seek to limit Client’s ability to use the Firm to advise Client on a particular matter. While the Firm cannot control what a person might assert or seek, the Firm believes that the Firm’s judgment will not be compromised by virtue of any Passive Holding. Please let us know if Client has any questions or concerns regarding the Passive Holdings. By executing this letter, Client acknowledges the Firm’s disclosure of the foregoing.

**Restructuring Cases.** If it becomes necessary for Client to commence a restructuring case under chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code (a “Restructuring Case”), the Firm’s ongoing employment by Client will be subject to the approval of the court with jurisdiction over the petition. If necessary, the Firm will take steps necessary to prepare the disclosure materials required in connection with the Firm’s retention as lead restructuring counsel. In the near term, the Firm will begin conflicts checks on potentially interested parties as provided by Client.

If necessary, the Firm will prepare a preliminary draft of a schedule describing the Firm’s relationships with certain interested parties (the “Disclosure Schedule”). The Firm will give Client a draft of the Disclosure Schedule once it is available. Although the Firm believes that these relationships do not constitute actual conflicts of interest, these relationships must be described and disclosed in Client’s application to the court to retain the Firm.

If in the Firm’s determination a conflict of interest arises in Client’s Restructuring Case requiring separate conflicts counsel, then Client will be required to use separate conflicts counsel in those matters.

**No Guarantee of Success.** It is impossible to provide any promise or guarantee about the outcome of Client’s matters. Nothing in this Agreement or any statement by Firm staff or attorneys constitutes a promise or guarantee. Any comments about the outcome of Client’s matter are simply expressions of judgment and are not binding on the Firm.

**Consent to Use of Information.** In connection with future materials that, for marketing purposes, describe facets of the Firm’s law practice and recite examples of matters the Firm handles on behalf of clients, Client agrees that, if those materials avoid disclosing Client’s confidences and secrets as defined by applicable ethical rules, they may identify Client as a client, may contain factual synopses of Client’s matters, and may indicate generally the results achieved.

**Reimbursement of Fees and Expenses.** Client agrees to promptly reimburse the Firm for all internal or external fees and expenses, including the amount of the Firm’s attorney and paralegal time at normal billing rates, as incurred by the Firm in connection with participating in, preparing for, or responding to any action, claim, objection, suit, or proceeding brought by or against any third-party that relates to the legal services provided by the Firm under this Agreement. Without limiting the scope of the foregoing, and by way of example only, this paragraph extends to all such

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fees and expenses incurred by the Firm: in responding to document subpoenas, and preparing for and testifying at depositions and trials; and with respect to the filing, preparation, prosecution or defense of any applications by the Firm for approval of fees and expenses in a judicial, arbitral, or similar proceeding. Further, Client understands, acknowledges, and agrees that in connection with a Restructuring Case, if Client has not objected to the payment of a Firm invoice or to a Firm fee and expense application, has in fact paid such invoice, or has approved such fee and expense application, then Client waives its right (and the right of any successor entity as a result of a Transaction or otherwise) to subsequently object to the payment of fees and expenses covered by such invoice or fee application.

**LLP.** Kirkland & Ellis LLP is a limited liability partnership organized under the laws of Illinois, and Kirkland & Ellis International LLP is a limited liability partnership organized under the laws of Delaware. Pursuant to those statutory provisions, an obligation incurred by a limited liability partnership, whether arising in tort, contract or otherwise, is solely the obligation of the limited liability partnership, and partners are not personally liable, directly or indirectly, by way of indemnification, contribution, assessment or otherwise, for such obligation solely by reason of being or so acting as a partner.

**Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of Illinois, without giving effect to the conflicts of law principles thereof.

**Miscellaneous.** This Agreement sets forth the Parties' entire agreement for rendering professional services. It can be amended or modified only in writing and not orally or by course of conduct. Each Party signing below is jointly and severally responsible for all obligations due to the Firm and represents that each has full authority to execute this Agreement so that it is binding. This Agreement may be signed in one or more counterparts and binds each Party countersigning below, whether or not any other proposed signatory ever executes it. If any provision of this Agreement or the application thereof is held invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Agreement which can be given effect without such provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this Agreement are declared to be severable. Any agreement or waiver contained herein by Client extends to any assignee or successor in interest to Client, including without limitation the reorganized Client upon and after the effective date of a plan of reorganization in a Restructuring Case.

This Agreement is the product of arm's-length negotiations between sophisticated parties, and Client acknowledges that it is experienced with respect to the retention of legal counsel. Therefore, the Parties acknowledge and agree that any otherwise applicable rule of contract construction or interpretation which provides that ambiguities shall be construed against the drafter (and all similar rules of contract construction or interpretation) shall not apply to this Agreement. The Parties further acknowledge that the Firm is not advising Client with respect to this Agreement because the Firm would have a conflict of interest in doing so, and that Client has consulted (or had the opportunity to consult) with legal counsel of its own choosing. Client further acknowledges that Client has entered into this Agreement and agreed to all of its terms and conditions voluntarily and fully-informed, based on adequate information and Client's own



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independent judgment. The Parties further acknowledge that they intend for this Agreement to be effective and fully enforceable upon its execution and to be relied upon by the Parties.

\* \* \*

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Please confirm your agreement with the arrangements described in this letter by signing the enclosed copy of this letter in the space provided below and returning it to us. Please understand that, if we do not receive a signed copy of this letter within twenty-one days, we will withdraw from representing you in this Engagement.

Very truly yours,

KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: Patrick J. Nash, Jr.

Title: Partner

Agreed and accepted this day of month, 2022

CELSIUS NETWORK LIMITED

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_